

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

- 1 (Currently amended): A screen comprising  
a plurality of rods, each of the rods having ~~a plurality of side walls, a an embedded end and first and second side wall facing a flow of pulp suspension and a second side wall facing away from the flow of pulp suspension walls,~~ at least one of the side walls defining at least one protrusion, each protrusion having an elliptic shape or a circular shape having a radius  $r$  of  $0.1 \text{ mm} < r < 2 \text{ mm}$ , all portions of each protrusion being positioned at a distance from the embedded end of the rod; and  
at least one rod-bearing supporting element having a plurality of receptacles, each of the receptacles having an inner surface defining at least one recess having a shape which is complementary to the protrusion of the rod;  
wherein a portion of each rod is received within a receptacle and each protrusion of the rod is received within a recess of the supporting element whereby the rods and the at least one rod-bearing supporting element form a substantially planar screen mat and the inner surface of the receptacle defines a clearance angle  $\alpha$  having a value greater than zero with the second sidewall of the rod.
- 2 (Currently amended): The screen according to claim 1 wherein ~~each of the rods has an imbedded end and~~ at least one of the rods has a plurality of protrusions, the protrusions being positioned at a distance  $h_1$  from the imbedded end of the rod, wherein  $0.1 \text{ mm} < h_1 < 6 \text{ mm}$ .
- 3 (Original): The screen according to claim 1 wherein at least one of the rods has three or more protrusions received within recesses in the inner surface of the receptacle of the supporting element.
- 4 (Original): The screen according to claim 1 wherein the first and second sidewalls each have at least one protrusion, the first sidewall having a different number of protrusions than the second side wall.
- 5 (Original): The screen according to claim 1 wherein the supporting elements each have a T-shape.
- 6 (Original): The screen according to claim 1 wherein each of the rods has a total height  $H$  and an imbedded portion protruding into the supporting element having a height  $h$ , where the ratio of  $h$  to  $H$  is greater than 0.5.
- 7 (Canceled)
- 8 (Original): The screen according to claim 1 wherein clearance angle  $\alpha$  has a value of one to ten degrees.

9 (Original): The screen according to claim 1 wherein clearance angle  $\alpha$  has a value of two to five degrees.

10 (Original): The screen according to claim 1 wherein clearance angle  $\alpha$  has a value substantially equal to five degrees.

11 (New): A cylindrical screen basket comprising:

at least one rod-bearing supporting element having a plurality of receptacles, each of the receptacles having an inner surface defining at least one recess, the at least one rod-bearing supporting element being rolled to define a substantially circular shape; and

a plurality of rods, each of the rods having an embedded end and first and second side walls, at least one of the side walls defining at least one protrusion, each protrusion having an elliptic shape or a circular shape having a radius  $r$  of  $0.1 \text{ mm} < r < 2 \text{ mm}$ , all portions of each protrusion being positioned at a distance from the embedded end of the rod;

wherein a portion of each rod is received within a receptacle and each protrusion of the rod is received within a recess of the supporting element whereby the rods and the at least one rod-bearing supporting element form a substantially cylindrical screen basket.